



# THE MESSENGER

**BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*A welcoming community of Christian disciples seeking to love and serve God and neighbor*

615-373-4826

www.brenthaven.org

## GOD'S CALL

*"When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.'" Exodus 3:4*

The children and I have been studying about Moses at the burning bush for the past couple of weeks in our Workshop Rotation Sunday School Classes. In fact, thanks to Suzanne Ghianni we even have a burning bush full of lights, streamers, and a fan blowing on it to make the flames look more realistic. (You really need to drop by the Children's Wing and check it out.) But as we quickly learned, although Moses heard God's call, he was none too quick to sign up for the task God was asking of him. In fact, God gets a little impatient with him. So, the children and I were wondering what we would do if God called on us. How would we even know He was calling? What would you do? Would you be scared? Excited? Should you tell your parents? So many questions...

In the Book of Matthew, Jesus Christ told His disciples, "Many are called, but few are chosen." It is some of those few that we will study in the months ahead: Samuel, Paul, Elijah, and Esther. There will be lessons on The Beatitudes, The Feeding of the 5,000, and The Call of the Disciples.

We will study the church calendar and learn what all the different colors represent. We will celebrate Christmas and Easter. We will study all of that in all sorts of ways, such as acting out our Bible lessons in a drama, watching a movie, and making crafts that tie into our stories. There might even be some food involved. A little science gets thrown in now and then, some computer projects are nice, and the Fun & Games Workshop is always a favorite. We invite all children in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade to join us Sunday mornings. I will be there along with guest teachers and our devoted Shepherds, Jennie Ford and Suzanne Ghianni.

I guess for the children and me, and maybe you too, the most important thing to remember is that God is always with us and can speak to us in many ways: through scripture, hymns, a prayer, our dreams, or that inner voice. No one we know but Moses has had God speak to them through a burning bush, but many people we know have responded to God's call, like Pastor Kip responding to God's call to ministry or our youth and adult leaders who went on a mission trip this summer. Even in Kids of the Kingdom, we responded to the needs of some animals by making them items to keep them warm and healthy. We are called on to pray for each other, provide a meal for those who are sick, or help those in need. So many calls. The important point is that we learn, like Moses, to accept God's call in the end and do what God wants us to do. And that is what the children will do when we gather on Sunday mornings. We invite you to join us sometime. Just check with me on how you can help when *you* get that call.

*"Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'" 1 Samuel 3:10*

Group shot: Ellie Kate Fleming, Kade Gregali, Barrett Strickland and Beckett Strickland.



## SUNDAY MORNING CONNECTIONS



Even if you don't usually attend a class on Sundays, we are giving everyone the opportunity to be a part of Sunday Connections—a Sunday morning class time for everyone from Senior Youth to Senior Citizens and everyone in between. This is a great time to try something new and connect with others who have common interests. Join us on Sunday morning, **Sept. 10, at 9:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and an introduction to and explanation of this six-week encounter. Classes will begin on **Sept. 17**. Don't miss it!

## CPWM NEWS

We have a Regional CPWM Meeting coming up **Saturday Sept 16<sup>th</sup>** at the Dickson CP Church. We will meet at **9:00 am** for coffee and fellowship and then start the meeting at **9:30 am**. Guest Speakers will be Mary Bell and Glenda Brake. If you are interested in attending, please see Beverly Garrett.



With another very cold winter coming up, we are collecting warm clothing for the **Lakota Indians on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** in South Dakota. This is one of the largest reservations in the United States, and encompasses several counties that are among the poorest, as well.

If you would like to support our mission efforts, please bring new clothing items, such as coats, hats, gloves, or scarves to the church **no later than October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. We will have a bin for donations in the narthex. Thank you!



Our next **Women's Meeting** is **Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having lunch at Donna Blewett's home. If you are interested in attending, please see Beverly Garrett or call the church office.

## CREATIVE CRAFTS NEEDS YOUR HELP



Do you have **costume jewelry** you do not want anymore? **The Creative Crafts Ministry** needs it for a project. A donation basket will be on the greeting card table in the narthex. Thank you!

## DON'T MISS THE KICK-OFF PARTY!

Brenthaven's Fall 2023 **Wednesday Night Special** will begin with a fantastic **KICK-OFF PARTY at 5:45 pm** on **Wednesday, September 13**. Fans are invited to wear their favorite team's colors, a team jersey, or anything else that will add to the Kick-Off Party atmosphere. See any member of the Brenthaven Staff to reserve tickets for yourself and your friends. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated.



Regular classes **begin on September 20 and run through October 25**. That's **SIX** great class sessions with no Fall Break. Ron Medlin's class will look at "some huge hits in 20<sup>th</sup> century American poetry with a special shout out to Carl Sandburg and Robert Frost." Kip Rush will lead a Bible study. Sandra Shepherd will coordinate "Art for People Who Don't Think They're Artists," which will explore lots of different styles and techniques, featuring what she calls Team Art (rather than individual work), which is easily accessible for anyone!

The Post-Season Schedule includes a deeper and more uplifting look at **All Saints Day on November 1<sup>st</sup>**. In addition, the Team has begun planning for our version of the Post-Season Final. For now, it's a surprise, but **save November 8 on your calendar**, because you'll **WANT** to be involved!



## BookEnd Book Club

*The Sweetness of Forgetting* by Kristen Harmel is this month's selection for the **BookEnd Book Club**, meeting **Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am** in the Adult Library.

At thirty-six, Hope McKenna-Smith is no stranger to bad news. She lost her mother to cancer, her husband left her, and her bank account is nearly depleted. Her own dreams of becoming a lawyer long gone, she's running a failing family bakery on Cape Cod and raising a troubled preteen.

Now, Hope's beloved French-born grandmother, Mamie, is drifting away in a haze of Alzheimer's. But in a rare moment of clarity, Mamie realizes that unless she tells Hope about the past, the secrets she has held onto for so many years will soon be lost forever. Tantalizingly, she reveals mysterious snippets of a tragic history in WWII Paris. Armed with a scrawled list of names, Hope heads to France to uncover a seventy-year-old mystery.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Recent Additions

Al Willburn (*nephew of Martha Stewart*)

### Members

Greg Allen, Joan Bledsoe, Bill Blewett, Phyllis Burkhalter, Corina Crowe, Ben Davis, Jane Dowden, Marilyn Ewen, Ollie Faircloth, Fred Ford, Sr., Barbara Gentry, Paul Gonzales, Madge Graves, Tommy Hennesy, Linda Lipe, Barbara Loyall, Dawn & Walter McBee, Logan McCulley, Jack C. Phillips, Jodi Rush, Cheryl Tabor, Don Tabor, Valerie Thompson, Julie Travis

### Family and Friends

Pat Allen (*mother of Greg T. Allen*), Abby Bailey and Family (*friend of Jane Dowden*), Tony Benefield (*brother of Karen Benefield*), Merritt Brakebill (*brother-in-law of Joe Malloy*), Becky Brown (*friend of Becky Jones*), Michelle Burke (*daughter of Joyce Burch*), Mary Ruth Campbell (*step-mother of Barry & Darryl Campbell*), Betty Canupp (*mother of Betsy Canupp*), John Copeland (*nephew of Martha Stewart*), Nelly Corbit (*friend of Julie Travis*), Steve Crawford (*friend of Carol Perryman*), Mac Crome (*cousin of Miah Faircloth*), Johnny Cunningham (*friend of Ford family*), Christi Dale (*friend of Jonelle Summitt*), Ann Ghianni (*sister-in-law of Tim Ghianni*), Shirley Jansma, Patti Jobe (*sister-in-law of Renee McCulley*), Doug Johnson (*friend of Shali & Frank Scott*), Sandy Keene (*sister-in-law of Joyce Burch*), Sue McClelland (*mother of Rachel Campbell*), Bettie Mason (*friend of Barbara Dial*), Lukas Miscae (*friend of Deborah Rolman*), Johnny Murray (*son of Betty Murray*), Ayden Orr (*friend of Ollie, Baird and Miah Faircloth*), Yvonne Reid (*aunt of Liz Strickland*), Raymond Roman (*friend of Amity Marsh*), Johnny Rush (*father of Kip Rush*), Rev. Teresa Shauf (*CP Minister*), Brittany Spradling, Judy Smith (*friend of Janiece Redmon*), Jim Summitt (*uncle of Blair Summitt*), James Talley, Bill Turner (*brother-in-law of Cheryl Tabor*), Philip & Isabel Ward (*parents of Heather McDonald*), Hayden White (*friend of Becky Jones*), Danny Williams (*brother of Linda Pulley*), Iza Wojcik family and father John Kavouklis (*friends of Liz Strickland*), those serving our country



## ANNUAL DAY IN THE PARK

Come for a day of worship, fellowship, food, and fun as we gather at the Birthplace Shrine in **Montgomery Bell State Park on Tuesday, October 10**, from 9:30 am–noon. If you are interested, see Rev. Sandra, or call the church office.

## MISSIONARY ANNOUNCEMENT

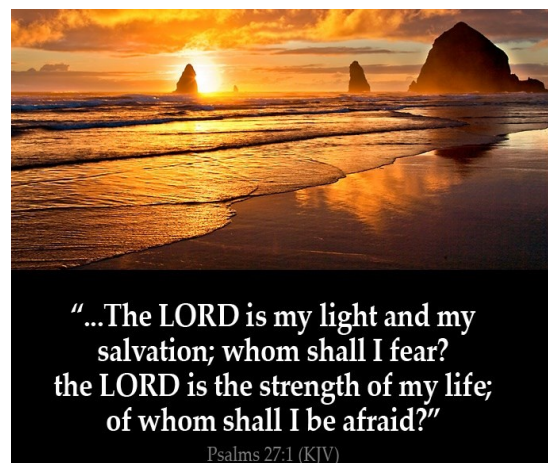
The Missions Ministry Team wishes to provide an important update regarding **Rev. Kim Moore** and our plans for Haiti. Due to the country's escalating turmoil, we have made the difficult decision to briefly delay Rev. Moore's deployment. This decision was made with prayer, discussion, and the consideration of everyone involved. We will continue to monitor the situation, in coordination with our local Cumberland Presbyterian pastors, Rev. Moore, and our ministry partners. Our hope is that over the next few months, we will see enough improvement to move forward with the original plan.

In the meantime, we have decided to temporarily send Kim to **Guatemala City**. She will be staying with Rev. Socorro Delgado and serving alongside her, John Jairo, and Esperanza Correa in various capacities. We believe that this will be mutually beneficial and encouraging for everyone involved. She will leave on September 18<sup>th</sup> and return December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We remain committed to the ministry and support of our Haitian pastors and Rev. Kim Moore. We will keep you informed of any changes to the plans as things progress. Please continue to pray for Haiti and the challenges they are facing. We know that the Lord is at work, especially in situations like this and that we are called to remain patient and hopeful.

Thank you for your understanding, partnership, and support. We are in this together.

In Christ,  
Rev. Justin Richter  
The Director of Global Missions



**"...The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
the LORD is the strength of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?"**

Psalms 27:1 (KJV)

**BRENTHAVEN CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

516 Franklin Road  
Brentwood, TN 37027-5909

Stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY SCHOOL : 9:30 A.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:45 A.M.

PHONE: (615) 373-4826

FAX: (615) 373-4869

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 10**

- Sept. 7**    **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Sept. 10**   **9:30 AM** Sunday School (*Sunday Connections Breakfast*)  
**10:45 AM** Worship
- Sept. 12**   **10:30 AM** Bridge (*Youth Classroom*)  
**6:30 PM** Session
- Sept. 13**   **5:45 PM** WNS Kick-Off Party  
**7:30 PM** Choir (*Choir Room*)
- Sept. 14**   **11:00 AM** Creative Crafts (*Adult Library*)
- Sept. 17**   **9:30 AM** Sunday School (*Sunday Connections Classes*)  
**10:45 AM** Worship

*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (green)*

Exodus 12:1-4; Ezekiel 33:7-11;  
Psalm 149; Psalm 119:33-40;  
Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 3**

**OPERATING BUDGET**

Dedicated Giving	\$682.51
Donations towards Budgeted Expense	8,218.00
Weekly Need	10,120.00
Received Year-to-Date	357,962.30
Actual Spend Year-to-Date	382,552.36
Difference	<b>-24,590.06</b>

**STAFF & LEADERSHIP**

**Kip J. Rush**, Senior Pastor  
**Sandra Shepherd**, Assoc. Pastor of Christian Discipleship  
**Cheryl Morris**, Children's Ministry  
**Ean Taylor**, Assoc. Pastor for Youth/Young Adult Ministry  
**Linda Pulley**, Director of Music  
**Amity Marsh**, Organist  
**Karen Benefield**, Office Admin (secretary@brenthaven.org)

**Session** – The Elders

<i>Class of 2023</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>
<b>Deborah Deaton</b>	<b>Ben Gross</b>	<b>Fred Ford, Jr.</b>
<b>Melinda Fleming</b>	<b>Bart King</b>	<b>Suzanne Ghianni</b>
<b>Jay McCulley</b>	<b>Julie Murphy</b>	<b>Mark Humphrey</b>
<b>Christi Peppers</b>	<b>Jonelle Summitt</b>	<b>Gwen Keiser</b>